

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 /023 W

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R 210932Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5996

INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 10087

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, ET (HAMMAT, WILLIAM & ANTLES, PETER)

SUBJ: PRESUMED DEATH OF HAMMAT AND ANTLES

REF: A. ADDIS 8318 AND 8321

B. STATE 137732

1. FOLLOWING IS RECAP OF FRUSTRATING EXERCISE WE HAVE UNDERGONE SINCE REFTELS. UPON INQUIRING WITH MIN INTERIOR RE OBTAINING CIVIL STATUS CERTIFICATES WE WERE REFERRED TO INVESTIGATING POLICE AUTHORITIES. LATTER REFERRED US TO FONOFF. WE SEND DIP NOTE REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING CERTIFICATES FROM MIN INTERIOR. FONOFF REPLIED BY REFERRING US TO TWO SECTIONS OF CIVIL CODE WHICH STATE THAT WHERE A PERSON HAS DISAPPEARED IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE DEATH APPEARS CERTAIN, EVEN THOUGH CORPSE NOT FOUND ANY INTERESTED PERSON MAY APPLY FOR COURT JUDGEMENT DECLARING PERSON'S DEATH. SUCH JUDGEMENT SHALL TAKE THE PLACE OF A RECORD OF DEATH. POUNCING ON THIS AS FIRST ENCOURAGING SIGN WE HAD, WE CONTACTED ATTORNEY ATO AYELEW WHO AGREED PREPARE PETITION TO COURT REQUESTING ABOVE JUDGEMENTS. AFTER FOUR PHONE CALLS AND VISIT TO AYELEW'S OFFICE, DURING WHICH TIME WE WERE LED TO BELIEVE THAT DOCUMENT BEING PROCESSED AND NO PROBLEMS EXISTED, AYELEW INFORMED CONSUL THAT ANOTHER SECTION OF CIVIL CODE STATES THAT APPLICATION FOR ABOVE DESCRIBED JUDGEMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLY WHEN A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS HAS ELAPSED AFTER INDIVIDUAL'S DISAPPEARANCE. HOPE THIS CLARIFIES INCREDIBLE PROBLEMS WE FACING IN OBTAINING DESIRED DEATH

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REPORTS.

2. WE APPEAR TO BE BACK AT SQUARE ONE WITH NO POSSIBILITY OF GETTING OFFICIAL GOE CONFIRMATION THAT SUBJECTS REPORTED MISSING, BELIEVED TO BE DEAD. REMAINING ALTERNATIVE (PER REFTEL 2, PARA 1) IS TO OBTAIN SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF POLICE INVESTIGATION AND PREPARE PRESUMPTIVE FS-192 FROM THIS. WE ASSUME THIS WILL REQUIRE ANOTHER FONOFF NOTE AS POLICE REFUSE TO ACT WITHOUT OFFICIAL DIRECTIVE.

3. CONSUL INTENDS WRITE SUBJECT'S WIVES AND INFORM THEM OF ABOVE.

HUMMEL

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